

OSA VIBRATIONS

Newsletter For Members of the Owasippe Staff Association

Volume 18

Summer 1994

President's Perspective

I would like to take this opportunity to thank out going board member Bill Schaefer for his last three years of commitment to the OSA. Bill served as treasurer and runs our Annual Picnic year after year. To Art Paull, welcome aboard, you are no stranger to the OSA. Ed Kinnerk and I were reelected, so we will continue to do our best. To Frank Chlebek, our membership Chairman, what can I say but "Thanks for staying aboard."

At the Dinner Dance I stated that we wrote off a \$400.00 plus loss due to a bank account we thought was empty. It was brought to our attention by George Johnson that this was not true, money was recovered and our loss for the year was the same as "91" and "92," about \$800.00.

In my last perspective I stated that the OSA Board will no longer sanction social functions that lose money. Our activities will include our picnic, our Dinner Dance, which should be a fund raiser, and work weekends. The spring work weekend, chaired by Mike Sanchez, was the best. Mike spent the two prior weekends getting the Reneker pool ready for the kids and adults to enjoy, also assigning foreman for the various jobs. He sent a flyer with the help of Mrs. Parrish. Our cook, Chris Drazba, was great once again.

Till we meet again at the picnic, remember that if you have a free week during the summer the camp can use volunteer commissioners.

Yours in the purpose,

Bob Ward

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Calendar of Upcoming OSA Events

August 15, 16, 17

Jewel Shop-N-Share

August 20

Saturday !

Picnic at Theodore Stone Grove #1

September 19, 20, 21

Dominick's Benefit Days

Sept. 23, 24, 25

Fall fix-it

November 14, 15, 16

Jewel Shop-N-Share

December 12, 13, 14

Dominick's Benefit Days

The Galloping Grapevine

Rumor has it, that Mark Karall will soon be ordained a priest. This Holy Occasion will occur at the end of this summer, which is just in time to officiate at Denine Hermesdorf's and Hans Anderson's wedding in September. Congratulations Mark!!!!

Kevin Kavanaugh, "Shop Boy, 83-84" graduated from Illinois Wesleyan College in 1992. He currently works with his father, Dick, in their family owned electrical contracting business. Kevin recently purchased his first house and is spending his spare time rehabbing it.

Rich Christopher works for IDOT as Deputy Chief Counsel. He is married with 4 kids, the oldest is a Tenderfoot in Troop 19, Des Plaines Valley Council.

Candy Romcoe and Geoff Merritt were married on June 18th in West Virginia. Congratulations to them and may it be a long and happy marriage!

It is with lament that the OSA reports the death of Al Baldasty, Assistant Camp Director at Blackhawk in 1984 and volunteer Commissioner for several years. We all miss him.

Roger Humphreville, Deborah and Amanda are pleased to announce the arrival of Sabrina Siri on April 26, 1994. Sabrina weighed in at 7 pounds 13 ounces and 19.5 inches. The Family now has a new home in Houston Texas.

Chris Bury is working as a correspondent for Nightline. He has just signed up for 3 more years as Ted Koppel's right-hand man. He recently covered the massacre at Mosque in Hebron on the Israeli occupied West Bank.

C. Morton Cliff lives in Palm Springs, California and has retired from P S Unified School District after 25 years of service. He had also taught in Illinois schools for more than 10 years, at Indiana University and Illinois State. He does occasional on-camera and voice over work, along with craft and costume designing, as a result of a lifetime in theater. He notes that he has a resume and VOICE, and is willing to travel. He misses the Arrow, Owasppe, and Whitten Lloyd, his oldest friend and mentor.

Thanks to OSR and Paul Perkins for picking up the food tab for the May Fix-It.

Bob Wilcox Sr. attended Owasppe as a Scout in 1939, 40, and 41, and as an adult for 26 years. He has been active with Troop 600 for 35 years as an adult leader and committee member. He has been married for 45 years, has 2 children (1 eagle scout, 1966), and 4 grandchildren. He retired after 45 years in the optical business on North Michigan Ave. in Chicago.

A Letter from Joe Sener

It is finally official. I left Bimba Manufacturing Company in Monee, IL as of March 31, 1994. I have joined the consulting firm of SWI - Svenson & Wallace, Inc. in the position of Senior Consultant.

SWI specializes in Total Quality Management and Productivity Improvement consulting. My specialization is in the area of Quality Management Systems. We are located in Naperville, which is convenient and our clients are fortune 100 companies, most of whom you would recognize.

Some additional recent accomplishments include finishing up my Engineering degree after 21.5 years, becoming a Certified Quality Engineer, Certified Quality Auditor, Lead Assessor to ISO-9000, and, for a second year, a member of the Board of Examiners of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

If your company needs Quality help and wants the best, give us a call at 416-3323 (shameless commercial plug).

Besides that, the CIT program is looking good for this summer again. Thanks to everyone who helps support that program.

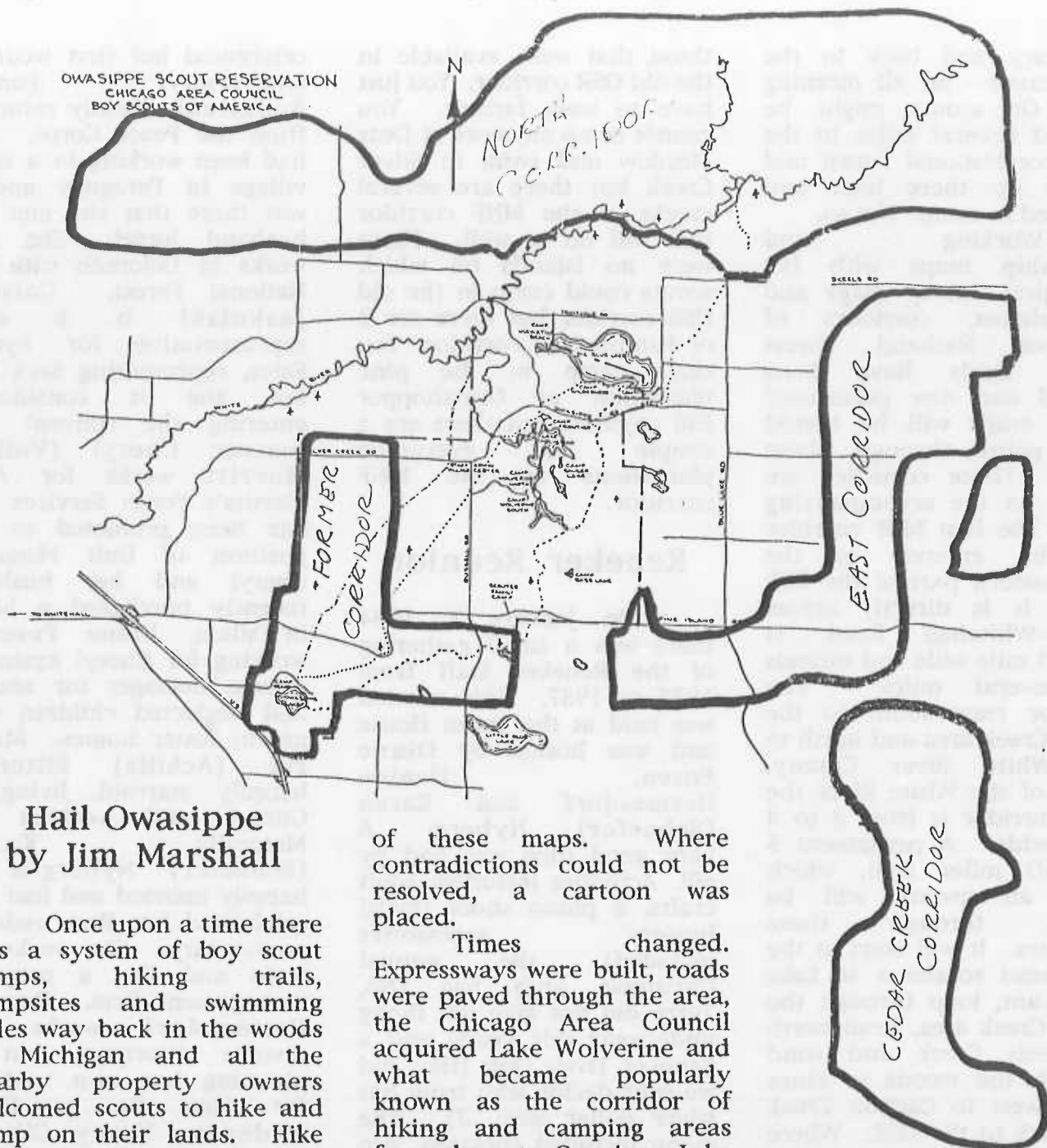
Grapevine News Needed

If you know news about one of our OSA or OSR friends write to us about it. Please include weddings, births, deaths, change of career, promotions, demotions or anything else that you can think of. Send to the:

OSA

P.O. Box 7097

Westchester, IL. 60154



Hail Owasispe by Jim Marshall

Once upon a time there was a system of boy scout camps, hiking trails, campsites and swimming holes way back in the woods of Michigan and all the nearby property owners welcomed scouts to hike and camp on their lands. Hike and camp they did because there were very few automobiles and many miles of red, yellow, blue, orange and white blazed trails and old logging roads that wound around so much that once out of sight of base camp you could not tell where you were. Just about no one knew where the property lines were. There were lots of maps of the area, each contradicting the other. The official trail map drew on all

of these maps. Where contradictions could not be resolved, a cartoon was placed.

Times changed. Expressways were built, roads were paved through the area, the Chicago Area Council acquired Lake Wolverine and what became popularly known as the corridor of hiking and camping areas from there to Owasispe Lake and Big Blue Lake. Private property continued to be used for hunting and fishing but many people began building their homes in the area, some of them very expensive. Owners became less tolerant of scouts and leaders hiking across their property, the land became very valuable, taxes greatly increased and, as any property owner knows, threatened to double or even quadruple with

reassessment. So the Chicago Area Council has been forced to sell the corridor.

Having lost the corridor, the present understanding seems to be that there is nothing to replace it, the Owasispe Scout Reservation is now bottled up by surrounding private property and the only hiking today is to the reservation

boundary and back to the base camp - an all morning hike. Or scouts might be trucked several miles to the Manistee National Forest and picked up there later and returned to camp. Not so.

Working land ownership maps with US. Geological Survey maps and air photos, corridors of Manistee National Forest (MNF) lands have been located and new permanent hiking trails will be blazed with paint through these areas. These corridors are shown on the accompanying map. The East MNF corridor can be entered at the southeastern part of the OSR where it is directly across Holton-Whitehall Road, is about 1 mile wide and extends for several miles. The corridor runs south to the Cedar Creek area and north to the White River County. North of the White River the MNF corridor is from 2 to 4 miles wide. A permanent 5 day 50 miles trail, which earns an award, will be routed through these corridors. It will start at the OSR, head southeast to Lake Sturtevant, loop through the Cedar Creek area, head north to Skeels Creek and wind through the woods to Pines Point, west to Carlton Creek and back to the OSR. Where the MNF ownership is checkboarded, this and other blazed trails will follow section line roads. These are unimproved dirt or sand roads often in poor condition over which the public has a right-of-way because the road follows a section line. However, the public has no right-of-trespass on adjacent lands.

The MNF corridor offers hiking, camping and swimming holes similar to

those that were available in the old OSR corridor. You just have to walk farther. You cannot camp anymore at Dear Meadow and swim in Silver Creek but there are several creeks in the MNF corridor that will do as well. There were no islands on which scouts could camp in the old OSR corridor but there are 2 or 3 in the MNF corridor. You can't camp in the pine plantation at Grasshopper Hill anymore but there are a couple of evergreen plantations in the MNF corridor.

Reneker Reunion

On January 8, 1994 there was a small gathering of the Reneker Staff from 1985 to 1987. This reunion was held at the Posen House and was hosted by Diane Posen, Denine Hermesdorf and Karen (Schaefer) Nyberg. A very good time was had by all! Activities included: adult crafts, a photo shoot (facial hosiery accessories included), the annual Christmas grab bag (No, Terry did not give out thong underwear this year!) and a Reneker Trivia Quiz (Hey, did we ever decide who truly has silver dollar size ...?). The menu included cocktails, two toned turkey, baked chicken (bones only of course), tater tots, slaw, green jello and plenty of Banana sheet cake!

Some of the latest updates are: Terry Horvath has been very busy with the school board, remodeling her home, enjoying life with her retired husband and "living a free and easy life." Laurie Jacobs could not attend the reunion but was there in spirit. She is living in New Jersey where she recently

celebrated her first wedding anniversary. Joanie Budzileni recently returned from the Peace Corps. She had been working in a small village in Paraguay and it was there that she met her husband Jorge! She now works in Colorado with the National Forest. Carolee Jaskolski is a sales representative for Byrnes Sales, representing Sara Lee, but she is considering entering the convent this summer. Cheryl (Voliva) Merritt works for Aunt Martha's Youth Services and has been promoted to the position of Unit Manager. Cheryl and her husband recently purchased a home in Dalton. Diane Posen is working for Cheryl again, as a case manager for abused and neglected children who are in foster homes. Mary Pat (Achille) Bitter is happily married, living in Gurnee and working for Motorola. Karen (Schaefer) Nyberg is also happily married and had just celebrated her first wedding anniversary. She works for Stein and Co., a property management firm. Denine Hermesdorf works for divorce attorneys, but is planning her own wedding for Sept. 94 to Hans Anderson! Nancy Cihocki works for Amtrak as a Reservation Sales Agent and she hopes to buy a home in the fall. Kim Winkler is in college and is working downtown at TGIF's as a waitress. Audrey Pryst is a "child care professional" at The Little People's Country Day Care Center. Sara Lavine is married to "Gary" whom she met while working at another camp, and they will be moving to Isreal in the fall. Peggy O'Connell

is married to Bill "Harpo" Zielinski (from Horse Corral). They have a little girl, and Peggy is in Nursing School.

Notes on the 1994 Annual Dinner Dance from Diane Posen

I would like to thank all of the OSA members, friends and family who attended the Dinner Dance in March. Although there were a few unbelievable obstacles that arose, all turned out well enough in the end! The Dinner Dance did occur, and I hope a good time was had by all. Once again some people traveled quite a distance to attend: John "Tiny" Norman from Missouri, Bill Lotter from Oklahoma, Chris Drazba and Scott Weber from Michigan to name a few, and Fr. Scanlan who races back from his "tour of duty" each year just in time for the dinner!

A big note of appreciation also goes out to Denine Hermesdorf, Cheryl (Voliva) Merritt, Karen (Schaefer) Nyberg, Scott Weber (once again the M.C.) and Barb Payne (for getting me started in the planning!). A very special thanks goes to Bob Ward whose support and perseverance was essential in the success of the evening!

During the experience of planning the Dinner Dance it occurred to me that there really need to be a few changes made to make this annual event more successful and beneficial for the OSA. The Dinner Dance is one of the OSA's biggest events and

is also supposed to be a fund raiser. Unfortunately, for the past few years, the OSA has lost money on the Dinner Dance or just broken even! While the OSA is not in existence to make money, it is necessary to have active members and of course a few fund raising events to keep the organization together. Of course, there are many members who are active and support the OSA! It is my hope though, that some changes will come about to make for a more interesting and profitable event in 1995, and more importantly draw in some new faces and bring back some old faces, that for various reasons have drifted away.

I need suggestions, comments and help in this endeavor! If you can provide assistance of any sort please call me at (708) 351-0315.

Thanks again to everyone!

Raffle Ideas

After taking on the duties of organizing the raffle for the Annual Dinner Dance, I have realized that some changes need to take place. All OSA members need to tap into their connections, to any prospective sources for the donations, regarding the raffle at the Annual Dinner Dance. Even though the efforts in the past have been successful, a more aggressive approach needs to be taken in the pursuit of raffle gifts. If each OSA member could obtain one gift, the raffle could be a huge success. The raffle chairperson can provide everyone with a "Raffle Gift Request Letter" to distribute to Prospective Supporters. A Thank You note is written to

the Supporter after the Dinner Dance to recognize the gift.

Everyone should remember that the raffle is supposed to be our biggest fund-raiser. In the past, although most people have been generous in the purchasing of the raffle tickets, the raffle has not produced the results that it should. An answer to this situation, is getting more members involved, and getting an early start, thus resulting in a more bountiful raffle.

The job can be realistically and successfully accomplished by two or three people. In an organization of 300 plus members, one would hope that more than a few people would join together and support the organization that everyone professes to be dedicated to.

If anyone has any suggestions, questions or comments, please call me, Denine Hermesdorf, at (312) 774-5785, or call the 1995 raffle Chairperson, Bill Ness, at (312) 445-0237.

"Early Bird" Fix-It

The "Early Birds" flocked to Owasippe April 22nd to "Fix-It." No, they did not set their calendars ahead by mistake, we had two "Fix-Its" in advance of the '94 season to get camp ready.

The projects included electrical wiring in LC2 and the new Nature Center in the Trading Post Building. Tiles were removed and installed at Food Prep and the Snack Bar. Hot Pack Stands were installed at Crown. Besides all of that, a transmission, clutch, and two starters were installed in various vehicles

and a bed for a stake truck was fabricated (whew!).

"Big Jer" Brown (C'mon look at the birdie!) shot photos, luckily no one was injured. Chris "Mother Hen" Drazba handled the food, Thanks for a great job!

In an interview after the event, Mike "Exxon Valdez" Drazba, garage crew chief, said: "When I saw all the work that was done by the "Birds," I flipped! Thanks Guys!"

Spring Fix-It # 2

Thanks! Thanks! Thanks!

The OSA extends it's sincerest thanks to Mike Sanchez and his wife Lee Ann for their tremendous efforts in organizing Spring Fix-It #2! The event was a big success, but the weekend would not have come together so well had it not been for Mike's extensive preparations. Many thanks are also extended to Chris Drazba for once again keeping everyone well fed!

We are happy to announce that Mike has graciously accepted the responsibility of running the Fall Fix-It! Thanks again Mike!!!!

Dues Need Paying

Check the number under your name on the mailing label. If it is 1993 or less, you need to update your dues. If your dues have been neglected for several years this could be your last newsletter! Please send the \$10 yearly renewal to:

OSA

Attn: Membership Committee
P.O. Box 7097
Westchester, IL 60154

New Members Needed

Know of any potential OSA members? Send their names, addresses, and phone numbers to

Frank Chlebek
11358 S. Fairfield
Chicago IL, 60655

or call at home
(312) 238-0240
work (708) 474-6212.

Shopping Dates

Jewel Shop-N-Share Dates
August 15, 16 and 17,
November 14, 15 and 16.
Dominick's Benefit Days
September 19, 20 and 21,
December 12, 13 and 14.

Chris Finnegan is the chairperson for these fundraising events. Call her at (708) 257-0611 if you need some information. Your participation in these events is appreciated.

1994 Board of Directors

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Medinah, IL. 60157
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Bill Ness
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Chicago, IL. 60620
(312) 238-3053

Art Paull
10054 S. Artesian
Chicago, IL. 60642
(312) 445-2016

Pat Romcoe
560 Kingman Lane
Hoffman Estates, IL. 60194
(708) 843-1934

BIG WINNERS AT THIS YEAR'S DINNER DANCE!



Joe Schluep tunes-in and turns-on to kitchen appliances.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Suffern win essential gear for a day's orienteering.

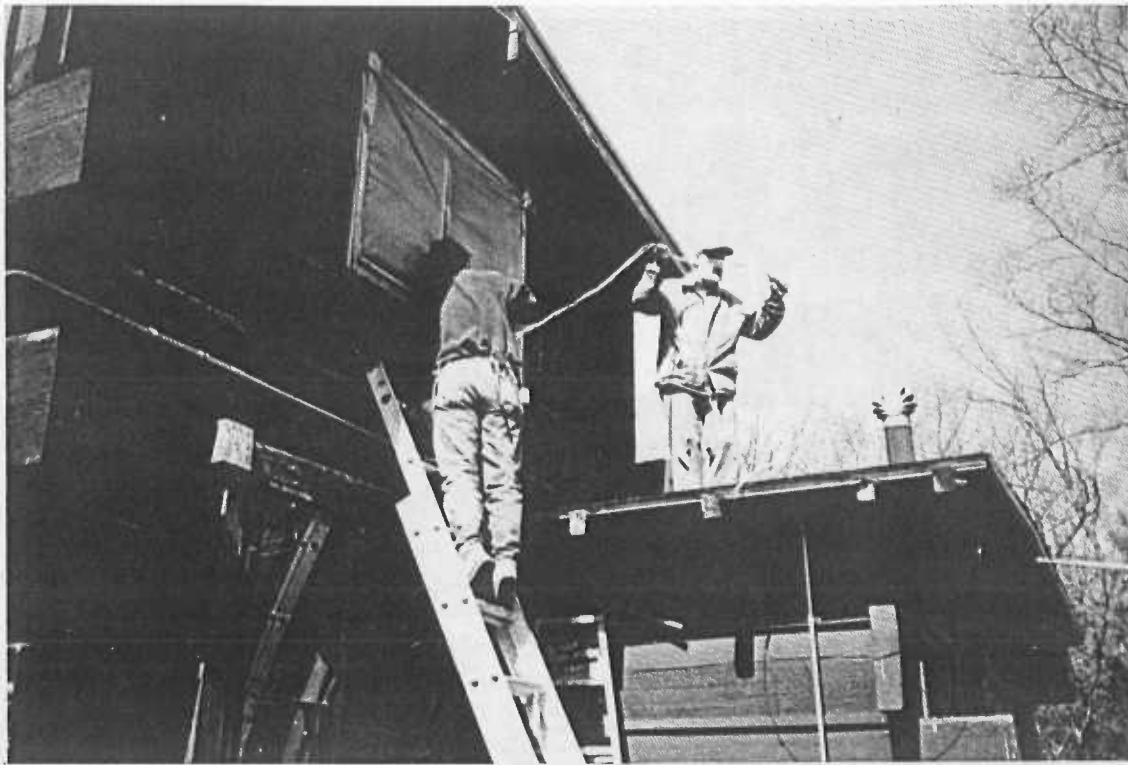


Bill Tenner grins and wins three big prizes.

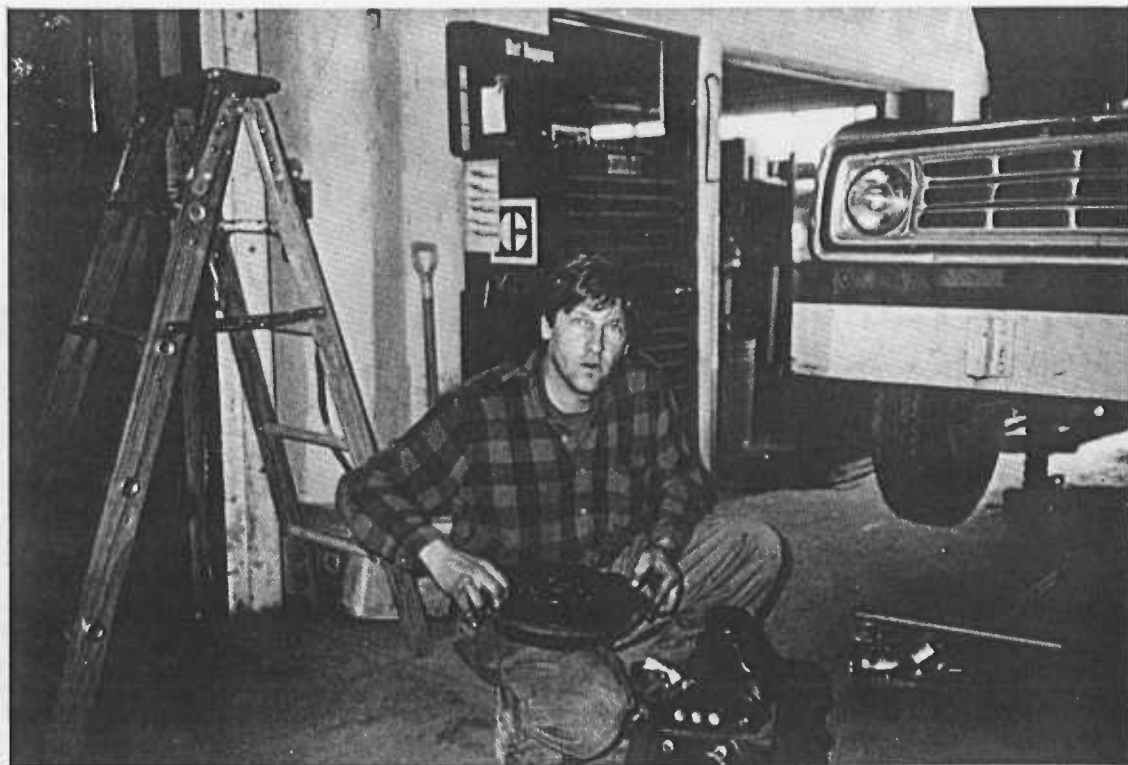


Chauncy Niziol and Irv Brinkman rehearse for "Tool Time."

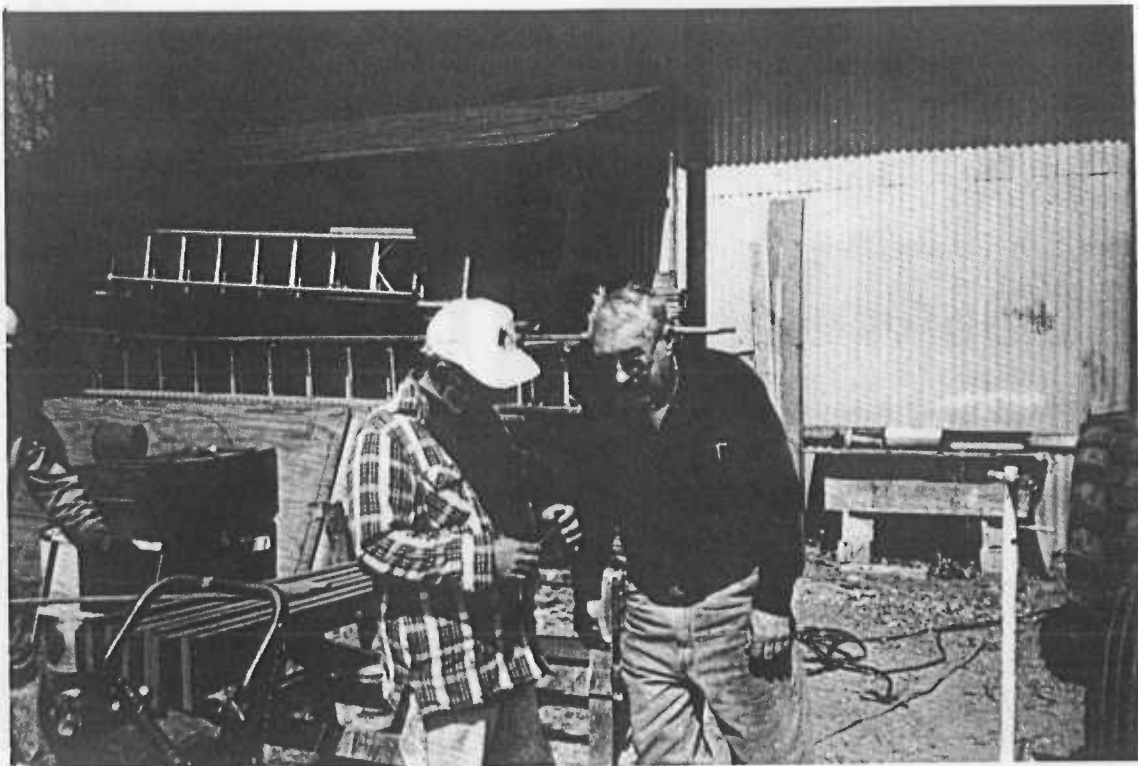
WEEKEND WARRIORS AT THE EARLY BIRD FIX-IT



Mike Ward and Gary Glowienke rewire the exterior of old Guest Lodge.



Mike Payne does some fine tuning on a Reservation vehicle.



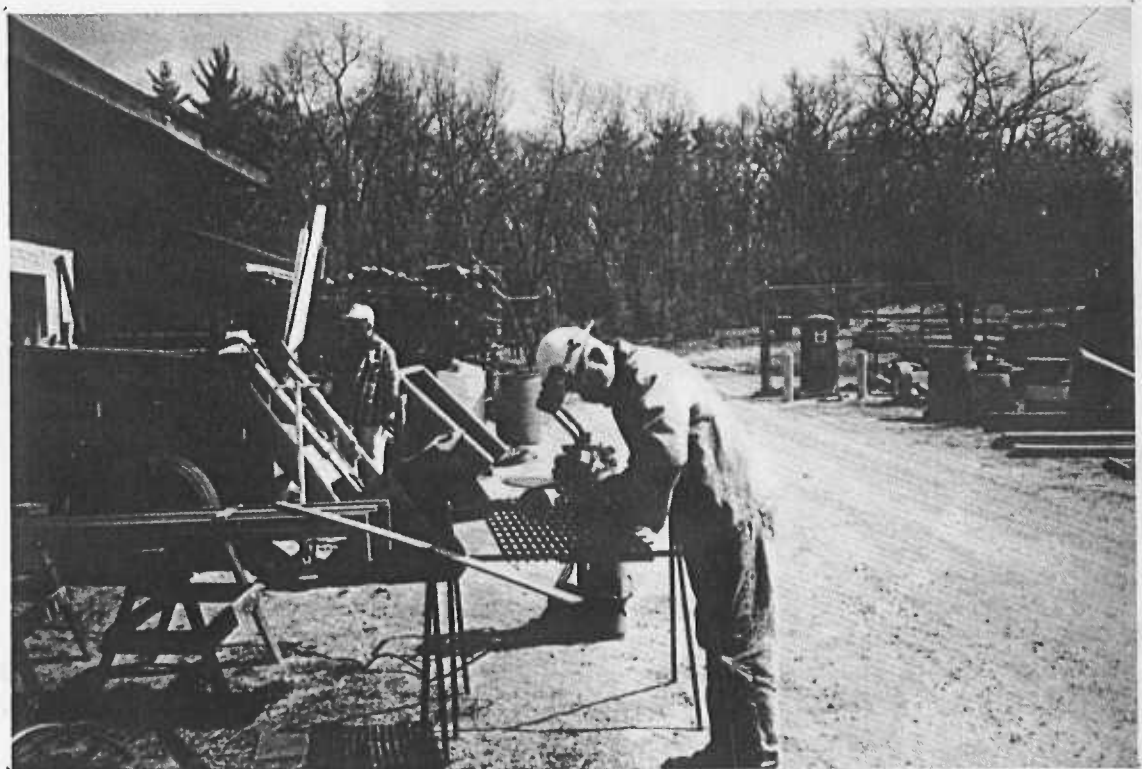
O S A president Bob Ward and maintenance sage Tony Krier exchange a few choice words.



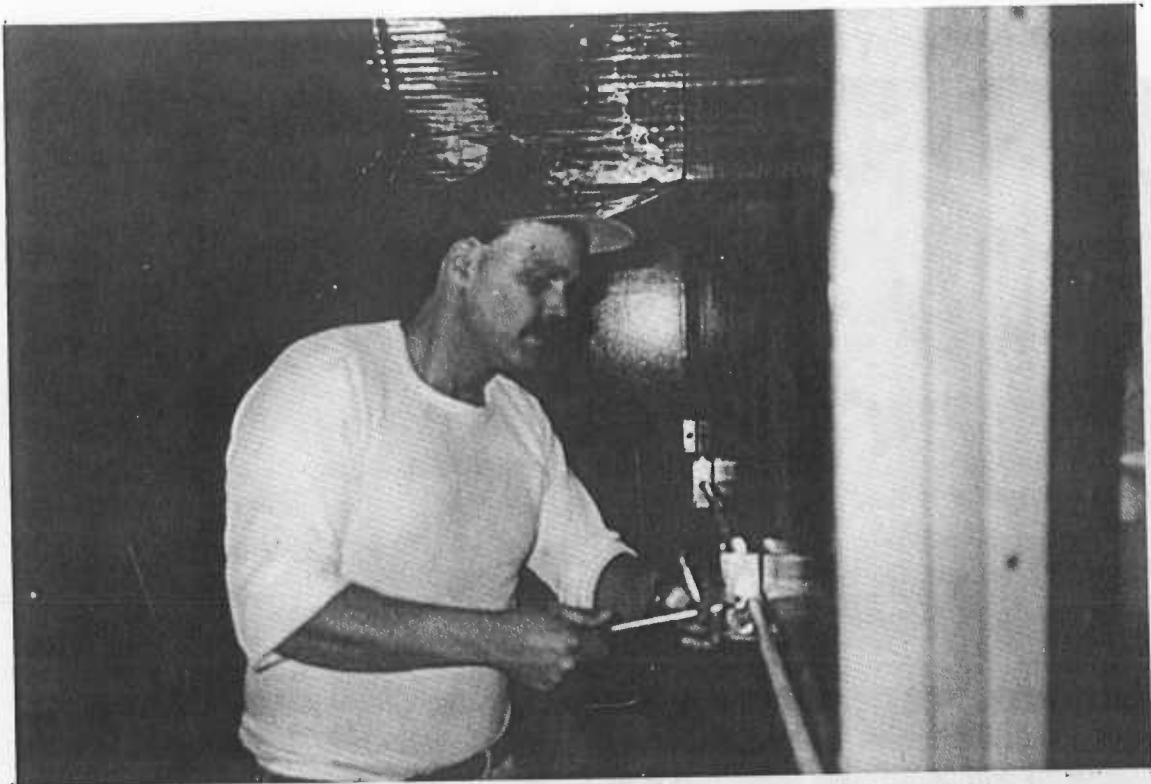
Nancy Romcoe stocks the shelves at the main trading post.



Ron Ward keeps the wire moving at Lake Cabin 2.



Joe Klefeker keeps his feet on the ground and his eyes on the task at hand.



Ed Hoiden lends some electrical expertise to the interior of Lake Cabin 2.



Mike Sanchez does a bit of sculpting on Food Prep's kitchen floor.